

TONY DIES; BENEFIT SHOW SLATED

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SLAYING SUSPECT CLEARED

Police Hold Man on New Sex Charges

A 43-year-old Torrance man, father of three children, has been cleared of any connection with the kidnap-slaying of Dorothy Gale Brown on July 3 and the unexplained disappearance of Karen Lynn Tompkins last August, according to Los Angeles Harbor Division Police detectives.

Robert Combs, who lives at 21115 Denker Ave., was held in jail, however, on child molestation charges after he admitted he had molested three other little girls in the vicinity of his home. Implicated at the same time was his 15-year-old son, Fred, who was taken into custody as a sex delinquent.

COMBS WAS arrested Thursday evening and booked on suspicion of murder when a young Torrance girl told police he had molested her and two other children, all 11 or 12 years of age. Police were checking out information in a letter they received from the grandmother of one of the girls — one of the hundreds of letters sent to officers since the slaying of Gale last July 3 after her abduction from a downtown Torrance street.

Torrance Police Chief Percy G. Bennett said yesterday that the alibis provided by Combs would be checked further this week.

"It seems like too much of a coincidence," Chief Bennett said. He added, however, that independent witnesses had corroborated the alibis advanced by Combs for both days in question.

Experts from the Los Angeles Police Department crime lab made a thorough check of an auto owned by Combs Friday but results of the check have not been announced.

POLICE POINTED out that the Combs home was a short

block from the Tompkins home and that Karen Lynn had often played with the couple's daughter.

At the same time, they pointed out that Mrs. Combs and her 15-year-old son were employed in a cafe a short distance from the trailer home of Dorothy Gale Brown and that the Combs youth admitted that he knew the Brown girl. Investigators are convinced, however, that Mrs. Combs knew nothing of her husband's admitted activities.

"IT LOOKS like we will have to start all over again," Det. Lt. Don Hamilton told the HERALD Saturday.

Torrance officers are still requesting information from the public which may shed light on the disappearance of the Tompkins girl and the brutal kidnap-slaying of the Brown girl.

"We can't leave any lead unchecked with such a mad animal among us," Chief Bennett said.

City Officials Tour Park Sites

City councilmen and park and recreation commissioners have scheduled a bus tour of city park facilities and proposed sites on Aug. 11.

The bus will leave City Hall at 10:30 a.m. and visit 15 points. A luncheon stop is slated for El Nido Park. The tour will end at 2:45 p.m.

Friends of 20-Year-Old Set Tribute

By GREGG PETERSON
Herald Staff Writer

Ironically, healthy, happy people will gather Thursday night to aid a boy whose tragedy-filled life ended Friday morning.

Tony Furtado, a lung-cancer victim, died Friday morning at Harbor General Hospital.

Responding to a HERALD article asking for cards and letters for the dying boy, Mrs. William Hiatt planned a benefit dance to provide for the boy's needs while he is living.

Now, a somber note has been introduced into the proceedings and revenue from the dance and show will go toward funeral services for the youth.

The money raised by the benefit will guarantee that Tony will not be buried by the county.

DURING THE final stages of his long illness, 20-year-old Tony feared county cremation.

LEGION LEADER SEATED

Members of the Torrance American Legion Post 170 installed officers for the coming year at ceremonies at the Legion Hall last night.

Roy W. Grimwood, long-time officer of the post, was installed as commander for the 1962-63 year.

Representatives of several



ROY W. GRIMWOOD
New Legion Commander

South Bay posts were present at the hall for the ceremonies. Other officers who were installed during the evening are William McArthur, first vice commander; Robert Gary, second vice commander; Edward Vincent, finance officer; and Harry Green, service officer.

Also installed were Donald MacPherson, chaplain; and John Bennett, sergeant-at-arms. Executive committee members are Newton M. Mathis, George Heaton, and Benjamin Roberts.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. at the Elks Lodge Hall, 1820 Abalone St., Torrance.

Even the people who come to dance to the music of Cornbread Bob and his Whispers will be doing more than Tony could have. He had only one leg.

Tony lost most of his leg after an accident which occurred while he was running track in junior high school.

YOUTH'S attraction to youth was the inspiration for the show. Bill Hiatt, 15, heard about Tony's plight and immediately took his cause to heart.

Young Hiatt, whose own strong legs won a featured role for him in the Academy Award winning picture, "West Side Story," became a daily visitor at Harbor General.

Because of his professional connections, the youth was able to line up singers, comedians, and other artists.

Admission will be by donation of \$1.

Tony died with the full knowledge of how wonderful people could be.

CITIZENS TOOK him to heart before his death, his hospital room was covered with cards. Tony received uncountable phone calls and gifts of every description.

Possibly the most touching of all the presents was the offer of a gravesite from Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ballard. Tony will be buried in the Ballard's plot at Roosevelt Memorial Cemetery.

Funeral services will be conducted in Moreland's Mortuary in Compton tomorrow or Tuesday.

IT TOOK TONY a long time to enjoy the fruits of human kindness. Until he was 14, he

(Continued on Page 2)

Restaurant, Motel Unit Slated Here

Construction will begin soon on a \$500,000 motel and restaurant in Torrance. The new motel will contain 74 units and is to be located at 411 Pacific Coast Hwy.

The Torrance Building Department issued a permit for the unit to Gilbert Sellan. Other permits issued during the past week include permits for 19 single family residences.

Total valuation of permits issued for the week was \$1,081,500.



IT'S OFFICIAL NOW . . . Although the San Diego Freeway, between the Harbor and Long Beach freeways, opened Monday, official ribbon cutting ceremonies were held Thursday. Taking part in the official act were, left to right, Art Reeves; Linda St. Clair, Miss Carson; Celeste Pitsenberger, Miss Dominguez, and Jack Carpenter, Dominguez Chamber of Commerce president. (Herald Photo)

Henderson Library to Open Doors Saturday

Plans are now complete for the dedication and opening of the newest branch library in Torrance. Mayor Albert Ison

and other city officials will join Miss Torrance, Bobbette King, in dedicating the Isabel Henderson Library, Saturday, July 28, at 11 a.m.

Cube Tossers Seek Mark; Miss a Mile

Ice-cube tossing has joined the twist as a national fad.

What began as a contest in Indiana to see how many times two people could toss an ice-cube back and forth before it melts has reached into New Mexico, New Jersey, and even Torrance.

For a short time Saturday, Richard Moore, 1741 Elm St., and Jerry Gilles, 1730 Elm St., thought they had a world's record for the hand-numbing sport.

The two tossed an ice-cube back and forth 2,425 times before it melted into something drinkable.

Actually, their efforts do not even put them near the top of the list of refrigerated water tossers.

From back east, a duo combined to throw the ice-cube 2556 times. But the AP wire puts two brothers from Lakewood at the top of the stack. With their mother as a witness, the two boys achieved a record 3,500 tosses.

The new library is located at 4805 Emerald St. It is the largest branch library in the city, and served as the model for new branches in Waltheria and North Torrance.

ISEN AND Miss King will dedicate the library in honor of Isabel Henderson, founder of the Torrance library. She opened the first library in the city with borrowed books at her home in 1913.

Mrs. Henderson was a niece of Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of the city.

GEORGE KURTZ, attorney and chairman of the Torrance Library Commission, will preside at the ceremonies. Visitors and guests who will be present include Mrs. Henderson's daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Jamieson, retired librarian. Mrs. Jamieson has retained an active interest in the library system since her retirement last year.

Mrs. Lois Borman will be the head librarian at the new facility.

OTHER guests who have been invited include John D. Henderson, Los Angeles County librarian, Miss Betty Lee Addison, regional supervisor of the County Library, and Supervisor Burton Chace.

The Victor Women's Club will serve refreshments after the ceremonies.



UNDER SCRUTINY . . . One of the two autos owned by Robert Combs, arrested for questioning in the kidnap-slaying of Dorothy Gale Brown and the disappearance of Karen Lynn Tompkins last year and later cleared, is checked by members of the Los Angeles Police Department Crime Lab during a day-long investigation of Combs as a suspect. His alibi was later substantiated, police said. (Herald Photo)



A U.S. Supreme Court decision has invalidated California's law making it a crime to be addicted to narcotics. The Pennies photographer asked persons what they "think about the decision."

Mrs. Winston Fuller, 20912 Amie Ave.: "I think the decision is hampering law enforcement because narcotics will be more accessible to addicts. People will take the wrong attitude now toward the law."

Mrs. Martin Welr, Provo Utah: "I definitely think that being a narcotics addict is a crime and I don't see how anyone can say it isn't. Law enforcement has received a setback because of the Supreme Court decision."

Howard Smith, 347 Via El Chico, Redondo Beach: "I think the Supreme Court decision has definitely hampered law enforcement because law enforcement needs some sort of pendulum. The court decision takes away the threat of punishment."

Martin Welr, Provo, Utah: "I definitely think the law and Supreme Court are not working together. I think possession or use of narcotics should be punishable. I have seen what narcotics can do when not checked."

Mrs. Marshall Condon, 20931 Halldale Ave.: "I don't really think it should be a crime to be a drug addict but I think it's a shame the court decision has taken away the opportunity for drug addicts to get involuntary treatment. I think it is a crime to sell narcotics."

PUNJABS
by gumparty

A FROGGY DAY IN LONDON TOWN

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